

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US04/23867

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(7) : A61L 9/04; A61K 9/00, 33/00 US CL : 424/45, 43, 718 According to International Patent Classification (IPQ or to both national classification and P C		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> <u>Minimum</u> documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 424/45, 43, 718  Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) East, West, Pubmed, Inventor Search, CAPlus, Medline, STIC Library Search		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
X	US 2003/0064028 A1 (FINE et al) 3 April 2003 (03 04 2003), paragraphs 0031, 0036, 0038, 0040, 0051, Examples 1-II Tables 1-2, Claims 1-2, 5-7, 16-19.	1-7, 9-10, 11, 13-14
E	US2005/0036949 A1(TUCKER et al) 17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)whole document, specifically, paragraphs 0026, 0031, 0074, Examples 1-3, and Claims 1, 14, 18-19.	1-17
X	US 2,844,546 (ABRRAMS et al) 22 July 1958 (22.07 1958), column 8, lines 65-72).	1, 4
A	US 5,648,101 A (TAWASHI et al) 15 July 1997 (15.07.1997), whole document, specifically, abstract, column 3, lines 3-25, column 3, lines 35-36, column 4, lines 10-19, Examples -7, 9-10.	1-17
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 09 August 2005 (09.08.2005)	Date of mailing of the international <b>09 SEP 2005</b>	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn ISA/US Commissioner of Patents P O Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No (571) 273-8300	Authorized officer <i>Valerie Bell-Hahtsifer</i> David Vanik Telephone No. (571) 272-1600	

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## **BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING**

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group i, claim(s) 1-17, drawn to a method of producing nitric oxide by using an ionic exchange resin.

Group  $\pi$ , claim(s) 18-25, drawn to a method of producing nitric oxide by adding a pH adjuster to a nanofiber having a diazeniumdiolate functional group.

The inventions listed as Groups I and  $\pi$  do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: **Groups I and II encompass two patentably distinct methods of producing nitric oxide and have distinct scopes. As such, do not share a technical feature..**